

*Vertigo modesta* Say. 15 specimens. Under decaying cotton-wood logs.

*Columella edentula* (Drap.). 25 specimens. Under dead alder leaves (*Alnus hirsuta*).

*Succinea chrysis* Westerl. 22 specimens. Under dead alder leaves. The mature specimens are large, (24 mm. long by 15 mm. wide). The aperture is of a beautiful golden red amber color.

*Succinea rusticana alaskana* Dall. Several specimens. Under wet springy moss along a small ditch.

*Succinea grosvenori* Lea. 9 specimens, in wet moss.

It is possible that a more intensive search in this locality would reveal other species of land shells.

The rain of fine ash from the eruption of Katmai across Shelikof Strait does not seem to have fallen as heavily in this section as it did on Afognak Island and some parts of Kodiak Island, where the ash fell several feet deep. Vegetation seems not to have been adversely affected, but it may have been disastrous to certain species of land snails in districts where ash fell deeply. This may partly explain the absence of these animals in some rather promising looking spots that I have visited.

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### WENDELL CLAY MANSFIELD

Wendell Clay Mansfield was born on June 9, 1874, in Charlotte Center, in western New York, a little to the south of Lake Erie and to the east of Lake Chautauqua. His A.B. degree was received from Syracuse University in 1908. For the two years following his graduation he taught science in the secondary schools. On June 20, 1910, he entered the Federal service as preparator to Dr. William Healey Dall, replacing the veteran collector Frank Burns. Mr. Mansfield advanced through the usual stages to the rank of Geologist, and in the meantime he had in 1913 received a M.S. degree from George Washington University and in 1927 his doctorate. He was a member of the Geological and Biological Societies of Washington, the Paleontological Society, the Washington Academy of Sciences, and the Geological Society of America. His wife, Katherine Gibson Mansfield, died several years ago after a long illness, and there were no children. He accepted

without bitterness, but with full realization, the comparative loneliness of his later life. He himself was in wretched health for a number of years, but there was no word of complaint nor of morbid reflection. He was spared, however, a long dependence that would have been harder than physical pain, for the end came suddenly on July 24, 1939, his first day of absence from his office desk. Two sisters, a brother, and two nephews, whom he regarded with pride and with affection, survive him.

Trained under the aegis of Dr. Dall, his natural regard and respect for books and museum collections was deepened and strengthened, and the Tertiary molluscan collections at the U. S. National Museum bear the imprint of his care. His faunal and stratigraphic studies were focused on the middle and later Tertiary and the Pleistocene of the Atlantic seaboard from Virginia to Florida. To those familiar with the deliberation with which he worked, the sum total of his published writings is surprisingly large, and most of his papers include a distinct stratigraphic contribution. He was the first to extend the Yorktown formation inland to Petersburg, Va. The description of the upper Miocene faunas of Florida—those of the Choctawhatchee formation—and their careful zoning are, perhaps, his most comprehensive work. In this he established the upper faunal and stratigraphic limit of the Miocene, while his work upon the Tampa has greatly aided in fixing the lower limit of the Miocene. His study of the controversial faunal and field relations of the Chickasawhay, on which he was engaged for some months before his death, was sufficiently far advanced so that it can be published in part.

Possibly the foremost quality of the man and of his work may be indicated by the outmoded word *integrity*. Too little self-assertive and too little self-confident to be sure of the rightness of his own opinions, he was yet tenacious of a belief which he had well considered and made his own. He was never too busy to be approached, and gave generously of all that was his, whether material or immaterial. He asked little of life during the later years, and those of us accustomed to the simple tenor of his ways were surprised at the diversity of interests and organizations represented in the chapel filled by those who gathered to pay the final tribute.